PORT ARTHUR SEEMS AT MERCY OF JAPS

sixteen thousand. During the colder weather of October there were practically no cases of berlbert. During the mining of the 19th the slege guns opened a desultory fire to find the ranges and an entire division of infantry advanced and assaulted the Russian redoubts at the foot of Riblium Mountain. The treops cantived the Russian form doubts at the foot of Rihlung Mountain. The troops captured the trenches in front of the redoubts. The operations began in carnest at daybreak on the twentieth with a bombardment of the whole line of Russian forts. Under cover of the bombardment the Japanese infantry made a determined general advance against the Russian first trenches. The way into the city was protected by four advance half-moon fosts connected by bomb proof trenches and having a twenty foot mout in front. A desperate attempt was made by the Japanese during the afternoon to capture the strongest halfafternoon to capture the strongest half-moon fort. Infantry charged, cut the entanglements, crossed the moat with scaling ladders, stormed the fort and drove the Russians back. But the real strength of their position lay in the bomb

Machine Guns.

Machine Guns.

They were filled with troops and concealed machine guns, which proved a deadly hall of bullets into the Japanese and forced them to retire. At about the same time the Russians recaptured the trenches in front of the redoubts in advance of the Ribhing Fort. On the right flank the Russian line was forced back. One Japanese regiment worked up the cast slope and another regiment made its way up the west slope of 175 yards hill, under the concentrated fire of the Russian artillery and captured the fort. Russian artillery and captured the fort at the point of the bayonet at noon. Elsewhere the Japanese were repulsed. The assault threatened to result in an

The assault threatened to result in an uter failure to secure a footbold on the fortified ridge, and General, Nogi summoned the generals of the left and center divisions to consult with him concerning the operations.

A Fierce Charge.

During the absence, on August 21st, without special orders several companies of a regiment of the center division emerged from their trenches, at the foot emerged from their trenches, at the root of the east Bandusan fort, and in tena and twenties charged up the slope to the broken wall of the trench around the crest of the fortified hill, under cover of a splendid shrapnel practice from their field batteries in the valley. The Russians behind the wall and in the fort poured out a hall of rifle bullets, and the machine and quick-firing guns belend forth on the intrepid Japanese. Twice the latter were forced back till the slope was covered with bodies, but a third attempt was made and a score of Japanese reached the broken wall. The terrible fire of the Russians, however, started their retirement. Suddenly a Japanese officer, regardless of the danger, stood up, called out an order, planted his regimental fiag on the wall and was immediately riddled with Russian builets. The effect on the Japanese of this sacrifice was instantaneous,

Fought Like Demons. of the east Bantusan fort, and in

Fought Like Demons.

The retreating infantrymen stopped in their tracks, hesitated and then charged their tracks, hesitated and then charged back, fought like demons, jumped over the wall, charged the Russians with bayonets and forced many of them up the glacis, over the ramparts and into the fort. The fact that they had reached the corner wall on the dead ground enabled the Japanese to hold on, though the entire Russian fire was concentrated on that point for six hours. The Japanese were reinforced from time to time by rushes by their comrades up the death way from the trenches and they, subthe trenches and they, stu bornly held the corner wall and a small section of the Russian trenches until two companies of another regiment worked through the trenches and captured the west Banjusan fort, the magazine of which had been blown up by a shell a short time before. Later part of the South Keekwan fort was captured.

A Peculiar Position.

dawn of the 23d developed a pe-position. The assault of the pre-

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THALHIMER'S,

Broad Streets.

concentrated their shraphel fire on the captured forts and the Japanese south of Keekwan were ejected from their positions. The Banjusan forts were subjected to an awful fire, but the Japanese in possession of them continued making bomb-proof trenches on the hills.

There was a flerce bombardment all day.
There was tremendous activity, the rear lines sending forward ammunition. The news came in whispers that a general

assault along the whole line would take place between midnight and three in the morning. The Russians anticipating an a deadly hall into the clearly visible assault, made a strong counter attack. The Japanese advance lines were driven from the forts and were furiously attackfrom the forts and were furiously attacked by large bodies of Russians. The Rus-

bardment. Every gun from the Japanese extreme left to the center concentrated in this fire on the fortified ridge. As the bombardment, went on it increased in volume as the guns from the center and west Joined in it and swept the ridge at the apex of Port Artbur. The storm of bursting shells lasted for half an hourduring which time the awful, concentrated fire swept the ridge from end to end. Over four hundred guns roared in rapid succession until the entire ridge was enveloped in a cloud of smoke. For a time every Russian fort was silenced,

Advance Is Made. Advance Is Made.

Advance Is Made.

When the smoke cleared away it was seen that the left division had advanced through the captured forts. During the night of the 24th, the ranks of the Japanese were so declinated by the furious shrapnel fire of the Russians that they were forced to retire to the valley below the captured forts and what might have been a successful general assault with the capture of the fortified ridge east of Port Arthur, was converted by the Russian tactics into a repulse, redeemed in part by the wonderful fightling qualities of the Japanese infantry and their refusal to accept what seemed to be the inevitable. The Japanese casualties from the 19th to 24th, were fourteen thousand. The center division alone lost six thousand and a single regiment lost twenty-five hundred. Only six officers and two hundred men of this regiment were left after the fight.

Furnished Foothold.

The retention of the Banjusan forts gave the Japanese a foothold on the fortiffed ridge as a result of six days of general assault. Heavy casualties of general assault. Heavy casualties marked this hazardous attempt to take marked this hazardous attempt to take a strong modern fortress by assault after a few days' investment. General Nogl was aware that his army was needed in the north and the troops, flushed with previous victories, were anxious to make the attempt. Success meant the immediate fall of Port Arthur, which great achievement would release the besteging army, which for months had been sappling the strength of the positions. The ability of General Stoessel and the determined surfit of the Russians had been ability of General Stoessel and the de-termined spirit of the Russians had been underestimated and the experiment was never repeated. As with the Russians at Plevna, with spirits dashed by repulse and heavy losses, the Japanese army set-tled down to sapping and making paral-lels. For the weeks the Russians were lels. For two weeks the Russians were unceasing in their efforts to recapture the Banjusan forts, but without success.

Reinforcements Brought.

Both Repulsed. In the evening of 18th a regiment of the right division attacked the half-moon forts in the Shuishi Valley, from parallels fifty yards distant. A battallon and a half advanced against the strongest west half-moon fort and two companies moved against the east fort. Both attacks were repuised. Twice again during the night the Japanese made unsuccessful assaults

that the Russians resorted to placing a hospital ship in the direct line of fire. Caught on Fire.

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The battleship Peresviet was struck by several shells from the howitzers and caught fire. It was announced on October 25th that the following day there would be a bombardment of the east fortified ridge, and also the Chair Hill forts, to be followed by infanity attacks. The bombardment commenced early in the morning, increasing in vol.

(By Associated Press.) carly in the morning, increasing in volregiment of the center division emerged a regiment of the center division emerged from the parallels at the foot of the East Urh fort. Another regiment of the right division left the parallels at the foot of the West Urh fort simultaneous-ly, under cover of a tremendous fire of shrapnel. When the first regiment gain-ed the trenches at the crest of the glaci-of East Urh fort, the Russians were hurled hundreds of feet. The trench lines on both hills were captured with 250

IS PORT ARTHUR TAKEN.

both hills were captured with 250

Persistent Rumors That the Japs Have at Last Succeeded.

BY GEORGE FRASER. (Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch Copyright 1904.)

ST. PETERSBURG, November 3.—Persistent rumors have been current to-day that the Japanese have at last succeeded in capturing Port Arthur, and that the heroic Stoessel and his gallant lieutenant, Fock, have been either killed or wounded. The war office says is has no advices from Port Arthur, and does not credit the reports. It is known however, that the The war office says is has no advices from Port Arithur, and does not credit the reports. It is known, however, that the Japanese had begun an assault in force, and that the garrison had become so weakened that there was little hope that it would be able to make a successful resistance. There is considerable talk today to the effect that if Port Arthur does succumb to the Japanese before the Baltic squadron reaches the Suez Canat, that Rojestvensky will be instructed to bring his fleet home.

In fact, it is not at all certain that this action will not be taken in any account. Few except the most enthusiastic believe that the squadron would have any reasonable chance of being successful with Togo. It is openly boasted among the younger officers of admirably that the promotion of Rojestvensky was intended as a reply to the British demand that he

Mines Are Exploded.

(By Associated Press.) CHE FOO, November 3.—A censored respondent with Japanese army does not give any particulars of a general engagement going on at Port Arthur, but it is certain that it occurred and some forts a Russian mine, and later attempted to make Dalny harbor, but this proved impres indicate that the Russians have expossible, and she sank in deep water.

OTHER REPORTS.

(By Associated Press.)
CHE FOO, November 3-(Noon).-Japaness arriving from Dainy to-day report
that the Japanese have captured Riblung Mountain and Sungshu Mountain,

news on the Emperor's birthday, receive the above reports with reserve. When the Japanese occupied the Russian trenches on Riblium Mountain it is said that the Russians turned a current of water into the trenches, but that the Japanese shells exploded two land mines on Riblium Mountain. on Rihlung Mountain.

Kuropatkin Reports Skirmishing. (By Associated Press.)

ST. PETERSBURG, Nov. 3.-General Kuronatkin; under date of to-day, reports that skirmishing occurred during the night of November 1st, when the Russian sharpshooters destroyed some of ances were made on the night of November 2d, but there were no indications of scrious engagements anywhere. Some movements of Japanese troops from the east, westward were observed to-day.

DISPATCHES CONFIRMED.

Japanese Government Now Admits Loss of Ship as Reported.

Press was put in a position to-day to state positively that its dispatches from Tune to the effect that the Japanese hattleship Yashima had been sunk by off Dalny, which dispatches denied by the Japanese authorities at the defined by the Japanese authorities at the time, have finally been officially confirmed. The Japanese government has notified foreign governments of the loss of the ship. The number of men who went down with the yessel is not known, but it is believed to have been small Full details show that the Yashima struck Russian mine, and later attempted to

A VIEW OF PORT ARTHUR, WHICH THE JAPS ARE ABOUT TO ENTER.

Frightful Running Sores

nes were lighted up by the searchlights, while the fort guns pounded in the valley. The Japanese artillery was unable to fire it this point, as the Japanese forces were mixed. The skilful working of the Rus-sian starlights and searchlights were utterly unexpected and bewildering. They never failed to locate the Japanese lines, which offered splendid marks for the Russian rifled and machine guns, and ren-dered the Japanese machine guns of little dered the Japanese machine guns of little use, and, as they were located and silenced by quick firers before they could do any execution. The Russian along the whole line had the black darkness, and the Japanese with the most dazzling light in their faces. The fire of musketry and thundering of the guns, the pouring of the machine guns, the bursting of startights and the flashing of searchlights along the whole line was a wonderfully impressive sight.

Lasted Six Hours.

Lasted Six Hours.

The fight lasted continuously for six hours, till dawn, when the outflankers were forced back over the captured fortified hills, followed by the Japahese, who, despite the fire of the forts, captured the forts and joined their force from the valley. As the Russian outflankers were driven in, Keekwan fort fired. The previous day, under cover of a tremendous bombardment, the eastern fortified hidge and later the cast Banjusan fort were set on fire by Japanese shells, and burned all day. The Japanese fleet appeared in the offing and engaged the Russian seaward forts. There was a furious artiflery duel during the night, and the center division again assaulted East Banjusan fort, but was unsuccessful. The scene during the night, the bursting of starlight shells, the flashing of four powerful searchlights from the castern Golden Hill fort and Chair Hill fort, the roar of the big guns and the rattling of mysketry presented another weird and wonderful sight.

A Third Attempt.

A Third Attempt,

fires played along the Japanese trenches, preventing the movement of the troops. The Japanese artillerymen concentrating their fire on the searchilghts, shells continually blanketing the lights. Suddenly the light of Etse fort disappeared and the light of Tayangkow fort followed. The Japanese infantry on the right flank advanced on the trenches close to the Russian lines when the Etse light was flashed out in the faces of the advancing troops and Russian machine guns, previously well placed, swept the fire along the lines, while rifles blazed with continual rattle.

Russians Outflanked.

The Japanese captured the Banjusan forts, outflanking the Russian forces and slowly forcing their lines back to the foot of Ribling mountain. The bombardment was started at dawn. Three doubt at the foot of Ribling mountain. The bombardment was started at dawn. Three doubt at the foot of Ribling mountain. The bombardment was started at dawn. Three doubt at the foot of Ribling mountain. The bombardment was started at dawn. Three doubt at the foot of Ribling mountain. The bombardment was started at dawn. Three doubt at the foot of Ribling mountain. The bombardment was started at dawn. Three doubt at the foot of Ribling mountain. The bombardment was started at dawn. Three doubt at the foot of Ribling mountain. The bombardment was started at dawn. Three doubt at the foot of Ribling mountain. The bombardment was started at dawn. Three doubt at the foot of Ribling mountain. The bombardment was started at dawn. Three doubt at the foot of Ribling mountain. The bombardment was started at dawn. Three doubt at the foot of Ribling mountain. The bombardment was started at dawn. Three doubt at the foot of Ribling mountain. The foot the center division advanced from the parallels and attacked a redoubt at the foot of Ribling mountain. The foot the center doubt at the foot of Ribling mountain. The foot the center doubt at the foot of Ribling mountain. The foot when the parallels and attacked at redoubt at the foot of Ribling mountain. The foot fort. The moat was crossed with scal-ing ladders and dynamite and hand gre-nades were used to destroy the Russian trenches and bomb-proofs. The fighting, which lasted twenty minutes, was car-ried on at the point of the bayonet. Finally the Russians were driven through the connecting trenches and the oher half-moon forts were all captured after slight resistance. The Japanese casu-

es, but at 4 o'clock in the morning the main attack was made and the Japanese succeeded in capturing the redoubt entering through a breach made by the artillery. The flerce hand-to-hand encounter inside the redoubt followed in which dynamite and hand grenades to destroy the block-houses whose brave defenders stood the ground until the last man was bayoneted. The Russian trenches were captured and occupied by the Japanese were down, either wounded or killed. The Russians had retired to their first line of trenches during the noisylves. The defending force consisted of four companies. The Japanese casualsucceeded in capturing the redoubt enut the redoubt was destroyed with ex-losives. The defending force consisted f four companies. The Japanese casual-ies were over a thousand. The Rus-

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A Splendid Spectacle.

slight resistance. The Japanese casualties were four hundred. The Russians

Could Not Advance.

"The attack upon 203 meter hill and

left, but few dead in their positions.

With a rush they carried the trench line on the crest of the hill. The last rush of the Japanese was a splendid spectace, ending with a bayonet encounter with the Russians on the full sky line. Bayonets, swords and hand grenades were used by both sides. The utmost fencity was swords and hand grenades were used by both sides. The utmost feroefty was displayed. When the Japanese had car-ried the east half of the ridge, the Rus-sians retired to the west half. Before darkness the Japanese were in possess-sion of the whole ridge, which they re-tained despite an awful shraped fire from the Chair Hill, Talyangkow, Tiger's Tall and Lalotte forts. Four assaults were made by the Japanese during the next two days, but they were all repulsed. The third regiment was finally compelled to re-tire from the trenches at the foot of the hill by a concentrated fire from the val-ley below. The unsuccessful attempt to ley below. The unsuccessful attempt to capture the advance fort resulted in two thousant Japanese casualties.

Letermined Opposition.

Extermined Opposition.
Every inch the Japanese new gained was by laborious sapping against the determined opposition of the Russians, who fought with tremendous carnestness sorticing every night against the sappers. The first battery of eleven inch howitzers opened fire October ist against the Urh fort. The next day fire was directed on the battleship Pobleda, in the harbor. The fifth shot plerced the forward decks of this ship, sending up huge columns of smoke and leaving a gaping rent.

ness supported the assault, the Japanese infantry could not advance. During the night a party of sappers cleared away the Russian wire entanglements. The Japanese bombardment began at dawn on the 20th, and all the morning the slopes of the Second Regiment charged forward transformed into an inferno by the bursting of shells. At 11 o'clock a small party The Russian batteries were evidently waiting for the Japanese as a most wonderful sharpnet fire was oner 1 on them. **Our Prices** and Quality Keep Us Busy.

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Representation of the statement of the higher fortified ridge of Ash Hill, the new Banjusan forts, on the higher ridge, and the rear forts. The Banjusan forts, northeast corner Fifth and Baker Street; Banks's Pharmacy, northeast corner Fifth and Baker Street; Eather Pharmacy, corner Theorems, and N. Streets; City Drug Store, 1444 East Main Street; Blanks's Proceeding the higher fortified ridge of Ash Hill, the new Banjusan forts, and the rear forts. The Banjusan forts, and the rear forts of the higher ridge, and the rear forts. The Banjusan forts, and the rear forts of the higher ridge of Ash Hill, the new Banjusan forts, and the rear forts. The Banjusan forts, and the rear forts of the higher fortified ridge of Ash Hill, the new Banjusan forts, and the rear forts. The Banjusan forts, and the rear forts of the higher fortified ridge of Ash Hill, the new Banjusan forts, and the rear forts. The Banjusan forts, and the rear forts. The Banjusan forts, and the rear forts of the higher fortified ridge of Ash Hill, the new Banjusan forts, and the rear forts. The Banjusan forts, and the rear forts of the higher fortified ridge of Ash Hill, the new Banjusan forts, and the rear forts. The Banjusan forts, and the rear forts of the higher fortified ridge of Ash Hill, the new Banjusan forts, and the rear forts. The Banjusan forts, and the rear forts of the higher fortified ridge of Ash Hill, the new Banjusan forts, and the rear forts. The Banjusan forts and the rear forts of the higher fortified ridge of Ash Hill, the new Banjusan forts, and the rear forts of the higher fortified ridge of Ash Hill, the new Banjusan forts and the rear forts of the higher fortified and the rear forts.

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